Claims

What is claimed is:

1. A computer controlled database system for providing a user with database output through a user interface having predefined dimensions limiting the capacity of each iterative segment of output comprising:

database means for storing a plurality of different types of output data;

means for providing data segments for each of the different types of stored data, each segment having a capacity limited by said predefined dimensions of said user interface;

means for providing a plurality of strings of said segments, each string including a sequence of segments of one different type of stored data;

means enabling a user to select one of said strings of segments to be output; and

means for outputting said selected string of segments at said user interface.

2. The computer controlled database system of claim 1 wherein:

said user interface is a computer controlled display interface; and

said database means for storing said output data is connected to said user interface through a network.

3. The database system of claim 2 wherein said network is the World Wide Web.

4. The database system of claim 3 wherein at least one of said strings includes a sequence of segments of image type of data.

5. The database system of claim 3 wherein at least one of said strings includes a sequence of segments of text type of data.

6. The database system of claim 3 wherein at least one of said strings includes a sequence of segments of video type of data.

7. The database system of claim 2 wherein at least one of said strings includes a sequence of segments of audio type of data.

8. The database system of claim 3 wherein said computer controlled display interface is on a receiving display station on said World Wide Web.

9. The database system of claim 8 wherein said means for providing said strings of data segments are associated with said database means connected by the World Wide Web to said receiving display station.

10. The database system of claim 9 wherein:

said World Wide Web further includes a service provider for organizing and providing data from database sources on said World Wide Web to said receiving display station; and

said service provider includes said means for providing said plurality of strings of said segments to said receiving display station.

11. The database system of claim 10 wherein said receiving display station further includes means for selecting and displaying one of said plurality of strings of said segments provided to said receiving display station.

12. The database system of claim 11 wherein said receiving display station further includes means for changing the order of segments to be displayed in a selected one of said plurality of strings of segments.

13. In a computer controlled database system a method for providing a user with database output through a user interface having predefined dimensions limiting the capacity of each iterative segment of output comprising:

storing, in databases, a plurality of different types of output data;

providing data segments for each of the different types of stored data, each segment having a capacity limited by said predefined dimensions of said user interface;

providing a plurality of strings of said segments, each string including a sequence of segments of one different type of stored data;

enabling a user to select one of said strings of segments to be output; and

outputting said selected string of segments at said user interface.

14. The method of claim 13 wherein:

said user interface is a computer controlled display interface; and

said database means for storing said output data is connected to said user interface through a network.

15. The method of claim 14 wherein said network is the World Wide Web.

16. The method of claim 15 wherein at least one of said strings includes a sequence of segments of image type of data.

17. The method of claim 15 wherein at least one of said strings includes a sequence of segments of text type of data.

18. The method of claim 15 wherein at least one of said strings includes a sequence of segments of video type of data.

19. The method of claim 14 wherein at least one of said strings includes a sequence of segments of audio type of data.

20. The method of claim 15 wherein said computer controlled display interface is on a receiving display station on said World Wide Web.

21. The method of claim 20 wherein steps of providing said strings of data segments is carried out at said databases of stored data connected by the World Wide Web to said receiving display station.

22. The method of claim 21 wherein:

said World Wide Web further includes a service provider for carrying out steps of organizing and providing data from database sources on said World Wide Web to said receiving display station; and

said service provider further provides said plurality of strings of said segments to said receiving display station.

23. The method of claim 14 further including steps of selecting and displaying one of said plurality of strings of said segments provided to said receiving display station.

24. The method of claim 23 further including the step of changing the order of segments to be displayed in a selected one of said plurality of strings of segments at a receiving display station.

25. A computer program having program code included on a computer readable medium for providing a user with a database system output through a user interface having predefined dimensions limiting the capacity of each iterative segment of output comprising:

database means for storing a plurality of different types of output data;

means for providing data segments for each of the different types of stored data, each segment having a capacity limited by said predefined dimensions of said user interface;

means for providing a plurality of strings of said segments, each string including a sequence of segments of one different type of stored data;

means enabling a user to select one of said strings of segments to be output; and

means for outputting said selected string of segments at said user interface.

26. The computer program of claim 25 wherein:

said user interface is a computer controlled display interface; and

said database means for storing said output data is connected to said user interface through a network.

27. The computer program of claim 26 wherein said network is the World Wide Web.

28. The computer program of claim 27 wherein at least one of said strings includes a sequence of segments of image type of data.

29. The computer program of claim 27 wherein at least one of said strings includes a sequence of segments of text type of data.

30. The computer program of claim 27 wherein at least one of said strings includes a sequence of segments of video type of data.

31. The computer program of claim 26 wherein at least one of said strings includes a sequence of segments of audio type of data.

32. The computer program of claim 27 wherein said computer controlled display interface is on a receiving display station on said World Wide Web.

33. The computer program of claim 32 wherein said means for providing said strings of data segments are associated with said database means connected by the World Wide Web to said receiving display station.

34. The computer program of claim 33 wherein:

said World Wide Web further includes a service provider for organizing and providing data from database sources on said World Wide Web to said receiving display station; and

said service provider includes said means for providing said plurality of strings of said segments to said receiving display station.

35. The computer program of claim 34 wherein said receiving display station further includes means for selecting and displaying one of said plurality of strings of said segments provided to said receiving display station.

36. The computer program of claim 35 wherein said receiving display station further includes means for changing the order of segments to be displayed in a selected one of said plurality of strings of segments.